

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 09 JANUARY 2005

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za, on packet bulletin boards and on Echolink from Chris, ZS6FCS.

SILENT KEY

It is with regret that SARL News must announce the following silent keys:

Eugene Britz, ZS6FU, passed away on 21 December 2004. He was a big supporter of the old Johannesburg radio club. He will be remembered by his mother, brother and son.

The Lichtenburg Amateur Radio Club is sad to announce the passing of Corrie Grobbelaar ZS6AMB. Our condolences go to his wife, son and family.

It is with shock and sadness that the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society reports the sudden death on Monday 3rd of January of Mike Poulter, ZR2LM. Mike had been a ham since the late 1970's, and had begun his career in radio-communications with the SAP in the early 70s, where he rose through the ranks, to eventually head up the radio workshops at the then Mount Road Police Station, in Port Elizabeth. He resigned from the SAP and then went on to work for a number of two-way radio companies, before going into business for himself as a specialist in computer video editing. Mike was in his early 50's. He is survived by his daughter, Michelle, ex-wife Helen, both now living in KwaZulu Natal and fiancé, Retha van Rensburg. They were to be married on the 8th of January.

[PAUSE]

In the news today:

FIRST EVER AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN FINLAND

2005 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO AMATEUR ACTIVITIES SURVEY

TINUS LANGE 7066 TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Stay tuned for more detail on these and other news items.

Please note that the SARL office has already closed and will re-open again on the 10th January.

SARL NEWS depends on clubs and individuals for news items of interest to amateurs. Please place your news items on the web site of the SARL, which

is www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English.

FIRST EVER AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN FINLAND

The first ever Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communication Conference will be held in Finland on 13 and 14 June 2005. Branded as Garec-2005, details of the conference were announced by the newly appointed IARU International Co-ordinator for Emergency Communications Hans Zimmermann HB9AQS.

The conference will explore all aspects of amateur radio's role in emergency communication and prepare and adopt a statement to the 2005 World Summit of the Information Society (WSIS).

The event will take place in Tampere, a town with a long tradition in emergency communication and throughout the world through the Tampere Convention, the first international treaty on the provision of telecommunication in support of disaster relief.

2005 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

The South African Amateur Radio Development Trust has announced details of its 2005 Construction competition. The Trust introduced the construction competition last year and awarded the prize to Louis de Bruin ZS5LP for a mixer/transceiver control unit, which was donated to the SARL for use in on the air activities such as the President's net.

For 2005, the project is a low power two-band HF CW transceiver for 20 and 40 metres, fully tuneable with an output of at least 10 watt. The design must use locally available components and in kit form must not cost more than R500 excluding the cabinet.

Entries are invited in two stages. First stage is a paper design, which must include full specs and a detailed write-up. Entries for the first stage must be received by the Trust before 31 March 2005. Three entries will be selected which will each receive R1000 for stage two. Stage two is the building of a prototype, which must be complete in a cabinet with construction details, circuit diagrams and operating instructions. The completed unit with all its paperwork must be received by 31 May 2005. The winner of stage 2 will receive an Icom IC-V8 hand-held transceiver sponsored by Multisource and the two runners up the 2005 ARRL Handbook. Full details of the competition can be found on the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust website at www.amateurradio.org.za or can be obtained by sending an Email to saardt@intekom.co.za or fax to 012 991-5651. Written requests for competition details should be addressed to P O Box 90438, Garsfontein 0042.

SARL PRESIDENT VISITS THE GARDEN ROUTE RADIO CLUB

On Wednesday 05 January 2005, Graham and Natasha Hartlet, ZS6GJH and ZR6NHA, paid a visit to the Garden Route Radio Club. The meeting took the form of a casual bring and braai at the home of Casey ZS1AAS in the Wilderness and twelve members of the club had a chance to meet and chat to the SARL President.

HUNTING LIONS IN THE AIR

The annual Hunting Lions in the Air activity scheduled for the weekend of 15 and 16 January 2005. Information about this activity is available on the SARL web-site at www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/lionita.asp

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO AMATEUR ACTIVITIES SURVEY

Help the South African Radio League better understand the modern SA Ham by telling us in which activities you participate. Taking part is fun and you get to view a full live set of results. You can also check back to see how the poll is do-ing from time to time after you have participated.

To take part in this quick easy fun poll visit www.sarl.org.za

TINUS LANGE 7066 TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Tinus Lange 7066 Technical Excellence Award and Tinus Lange 7066 Junior Technical Excellence Award is bestowed annually on the persons who submit a technical project in any of the following categories:

- a. Design and/or construction of projects such as a pre-amp, SWR bridge, patch-ing unit, automatic ID-er, practical antenna ideas, mast, portable gear, power supplies etc.

OR

- b. Any software for use in Amateur Radio.

The submission must include the following: - the actual items (if size and mass allows it) or photographs (particularly in the case of antennas/mast etc) and a complete write-up in article form with illustrations/pictures ready for publication in Radio ZS.

The actual artefact and the supporting documentation - i.e. a press ready article for Radio ZS plus any other documents - and be delivered to the NARC not later than the 18 March. All entries will be displayed (where practical, otherwise photographs) at the AGM and the awards will be presented at the annual dinner. The two awards made are the Junior Technical Achievement Award (Under 25 years of age), a framed certificate and a cash award of R350, and the Technical Achievement Award, a framed certificate and a cash award of R350.

EAST RAND FLEA MARKET

The East Rand Radio Club will be hosting a flea market on 05 February 2005 from 09:00 at the clubhouse in Springs.

Tables are R20-00 and bookings can be done at Johanna Harris on telephone 011 814 2121. This flea market marks the date of the VHF-UHF Linear Amplifier giveaway. Tickets are still available.

PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

DX enthusiasts must expect to receive the same weekly propagation report for the next few years. There will of course be exciting times as well. We must not accept that conditions will always be bad; there will be the unexpected openings, which can be very exciting.

Propagation conditions during the past week have been very weak. The main reason being a low sun spot number and the absence of sun activity. On Thursday the sun spot number was 28,3 compared to the previous week's 49,0. Only one active area was observed on the surface of the sun.

The expected average sun spot number for January is estimated to be 27,0 - the average for January 2004 was 52,0 - almost a 50% drop.

DIARY OF EVENTS

10 January - SARL Office opens; 15 and 16 January Hunting Lions in the Air; 21 to 23 January PEARS VHF Contest; 23 January - President's net; 29 January SARL Youth Day; 05 February East Rand RC Flea market 10 February Submit synopsis of proposed papers for AMSATCON2005 12 February - RTA lecture at the NARC at 10:00; 12 and 13 February SARL HF Field Day; 18 March - Closing date for the Tinus Lange 7066 Awards 31 March - Submit final papers for AMSATCON2005; closing date for part 1 of the 2005 Construction Competition 09 April - SARL AGM; 14 May - AMSATCON2005;

The SARL invites you to listen on Sundays at 10:00 to Amateur Radio Mirror In-ternational on 17 700, 9 750, and 7 082 kHz and many 2 m repeaters in different areas. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

Telkom and Sentech sponsor ARMI.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by Dennis, ZS4BS, and read byfrom..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL and thank you for having joined us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX